

REMARKS

In the above-identified Office Action, it was required that Applicant must direct the provisions of the claims to the subject matter of previous Claims 62 and 63, which claims existed in the application prior to the filing of the last Amendment. Accordingly, by this response the claims have been presented so that the sole independent Claims 78 and 79 constitute amended versions of previous Claims 62 and 63. Further in this regard, new Claims 80-86 all depend from Claims 78 and 79.

In particular, new Claim 78 (an amended version of previous Claim 62) is directed to an image input apparatus for connecting with a printing apparatus via a serial bus, wherein the printing apparatus receives image data from an apparatus to which the printing apparatus is connected, and is capable of converting JPEG coded image data into image data for printing to print an image when that the received image data is the JPEG coded image data. The claimed input image apparatus comprises:

an input unit configured to input image data;

an obtaining unit (S3201 in Fig. 29) configured to obtain information for enabling data communication with the printing apparatus, in response to the power on of the printing apparatus or a connection between the image input apparatus and the printing apparatus, wherein the information includes an identification of a type of the printing apparatus;

a determination unit (S3206) configured to determine whether or not the image input apparatus should convert the JPEG coded image data into image data for printing using the printing apparatus, based on the type of the printing apparatus identified in the information obtained by said obtaining unit;

a conversion unit (9) configured to convert the JPEG coded image data into the image data for printing when said determination means determines that the JPEG coded image data is to be converted into the image data for printing; and

a communication unit (3) configured to transmit the JPEG coded image data or the image data converted by said conversion unit, to the printing apparatus.

In this apparatus now set forth in Claim 78, a decompression process, a correction process, and a conversion process, respectively, correspond to step S3109, S3312, S3115, and S3118 in Fig. 29.

Referring now to the prior art relied upon prior to the filing of the last Amendment, the cited **Small** patent discloses that a camera up-loads parameters for image processing from a printer and the camera performs image processing on image data based on the parameters, while the cited **Rissman** patent discloses a digital camera ready-printer that converts a selected frame of image data to be printed into print data in order to print the image data.

However, neither of the **Small** or **Rissman** references disclose whether an image input apparatus should convert JPEG coded image data into image data for printing, based on an identification of the type of a connected printing apparatus and a communication speed contained in information for enabling data communication between the image input apparatus and the printing apparatus. For example, **Small** discloses that a communication between a camera and a printer is established and then the camera queries a printer whether the printer will perform compensation or whether the camera should accept variable parameters from the printer and then perform compensation for the variable parameters. But **Small** does not determine whether an image input apparatus (camera) converts or does not convert JPEG coded image data into image

data for printing, based on the type of the printer and the communication speed contained in information that is obtained while establishing data communication between the camera and the printer. **Rissman** also fails to disclose determining whether an image input apparatus (camera) converts or does not convert the JPEG coded image data into image data for printing

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that the present invention, as set forth in Claim 78, is not disclosed by the cited prior art. Similarly, method Claim 79 is patentably distinct over the prior art for the same reasons given above with respect to Claim 78.

For these reasons, it is believed that independent Claims 78 and 79, together with their dependent claims, are allowable, wherefore the issuance of a notice of Allowance is solicited.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 503939.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York Office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

/John A. Krause/
John A. Krause
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 24,613

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112-3801
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200